

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Granger Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for City of Granite Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Granite Falls, located at 500 W Wallace Street, Granite Falls, WA, 98252.

The City of Granite Falls waste water treatment plant is operating at nearly 100% capacity and will soon face a water quality emergency at its wastewater treatment plant. Because the treatment plant discharges into the Pilchuck River, which is a component to the Snohomish Watershed, it is subject to strict water quality standards. This wastewater project is essential to improve and protect the future health of the river and the Snohomish Watershed and will meet the requirements of the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Wastewater Facility Discharge Permit (#WA0021130). Funding a new waste water treatment plant to meet these requirements is financially prohibitive for a small city of under 5,000 residents.

This project also directly affects the supply of affordable housing. Since April 2018 there has been a sewer moratorium, prohibiting new permitting for construction of housing. Additional wastewater treatment capacity will allow the city to add additional affordable housing and meet its state mandated population target. The end of the construction moratorium will provide living wage jobs both directly through housing construction and indirectly through residential growth and economic development.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Kim Schrier, M.D. Member of Congress